

REMARKS

The Office Action dated November 21, 2002 has been read and carefully considered and the present amendment submitted to clarify the claim language to better define the present invention.

In that Office Action, the specification was objected to because of certain informalities relating to the form of the specification, that is, the lack of the headings suggested for use with applications and, accordingly, a substitute specification is submitted herewith with the various headings inserted into the specification along with various other minor corrections. A copy of the original specification is also provided with this Amendment as a marked up version to show the changes made to the specification and it therefore can be seen that no new matter has been inserted into the specification.

Claims 1-12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention, namely, that the claims were considered to be generally narrative and indefinite. As such, the claims have all been extensively rewritten to bring them into conformity with U.S. practice and it is believed that the Section 112 objection has been corrected.

Claims 1, 2 and 7-11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Duran, U.S. Patent 4,655,657 and claims 1-12 alternatively rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ross U.S. Patent 1,975,296 in view of the Duran reference. Since the claims have now been amended to make clear only the fastening mechanism is being claimed, it is believed that the Section 103(a) rejection is no longer viable.

Accordingly, with the newly amended claim language describing the present invention, it should be clearer what the Applicant is specifically claiming and therefore the distinctions between the subject invention and the apparatus of the Duran patent also can be better understood.

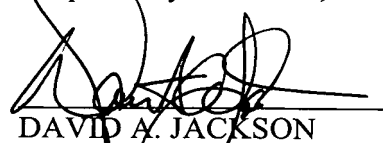
In particular, the Duran reference is concerned with retaining a bolt joining two panel members together and to insure that the bolt will stay in place even if the normal safety cotter pin has become disengaged or not originally installed. With the Duran construction there is a spindle that fits into the hollowed out interior of the bolt and that spindle is movable to displace the ball detents outwardly to interfit into cavities to secure the bolt from becoming loose.

Thus the Duran reference does not consider the detachably affixing of a roller on a spindle where the spindle has, for example, a reduced diameter extension that aligns the roller and also guides the roller smoothly around the outer circumference of the spindle and the roller and spindle arrangement of the present invention is certainly not analogous or relevant to the rotationally securing of a threaded bolt to secure two panels together.

The further reference of Ross has been studied, however, it is submitted that such reference cannot be combined with Duran to cure the deficiencies and totally different construction of the Duran reference to create a combination, even if such a combination were feasible, to render the present amended claims as unpatentable over that combination.

Accordingly, it is submitted that the claims in the present application are in allowable form and an allowance of the present application is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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Version With Markings To Show Changes Made

In The Claims

Claim 1 has been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) A mounting and dismounting mechanism for a straightening or calibrating roller [(7)] [rotatable about a spindle (1) and provided with] having a circular groove [(13)], the mechanism comprising a spindle, the spindle having a large diameter portion and a reduced diameter spindle extension, [at least one holder element (8),] the roller (7) being adapted to be mountable and clampable [by means of the holder element (8)] around the spindle (1), and to be dismountable and removable from around the spindle [(1)] co-directionally with a longitudinal axis (A) of the spindle and, the reduced diameter spindle extension providing the roller a preliminary alignment and for guiding the roller smoothly around the spindle, [(1), **characterized** in that] the spindle [(1) is formed with] having a wall with an outer surface and a cylindrical cavity, [(4), having its wall (3)] the wall provided with [an] at least one opening, at least one [the] holder element [(8)] being adapted to move within the cylindrical cavity [therein] between clamping and release positions thereof, respectively protruding through the at least one opening to protrude from the outer surface of the spindle to retain a roller to the spindle and not protruding from the outer surface of the spindle, [that the cavity (4) is provided with] a pusher [(9)] adapted to be movably located within the cylindrical cavity and being movable between clamping and release positions thereof, [and said] the pusher [(9)] being formed with a thrust face [(9a, 9b)] to engage the [for the] holder element [(8)], and a biasing means [power unit (10) forcing] biasing the pusher [(9)] to shift from its release position to its clamping position wherein[,] the thrust face [(9a, 9b)] of the pusher [(9) using the force of the power unit (10)] [to move] moves the at least one holder element [(8)] from its release position to its clamping position protruding from the outer surface of the spindle to retain a roller to the spindle, [and that] and a plunger affixed to the pusher [(9) associated with a plunger (11)], whereby the

pusher [(9)] is movable against the force of the [power unit (10)] biasing means from its clamping position to its release position, the at least one holder element [(8)] being thus capable of shifting from its clamping position to its release position.

Claim 2 has been amended as follows:

2. (Amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [, characterized in that] wherein the pusher [(9)] has its clamping position and release position axially spaced from each other, and [that] the thrust face [(9a, 9b)] is at an acute angle relative to the longitudinal axis [(A)] of the spindle [(1)].

Claim 3 has been amended as follows:

3. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the spindle [(1)] comprises a stationary spindle and the roller [(7)] is provided with a bearing [(6)] havng an inner diameter.

Claim 4 has been amended as follows:

4. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the spindle [(1)] comprises a rotatably pivoted spindle.

Please cancel claim 5 without prejudice.

Claim 6 has been amended as follows:

6. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim [1] 3 [characterized in that] wherein the plunger [(11)] comprises a push rod, extending from the cavity [(4)] and having its end provided with an extension [(11a)] having a diameter which is smaller that the inner diameter of the bearing[(6)].

Claim 7 has been amended as follows:

7. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 2 [characterized in that] wherein the acute angle between the thrust face [(9a,9b)] and the longitudinal axis (A) increases towards the distal end of the pusher [(9)], and [that] the thrust face section [(9a)] [having] has a smaller angle and bears against the at least one holder element [(8)] in the clamping position of the [latter] at least one holder element.

Claim 8 has been amended as follows:

8. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the at least one holder element [(8)] comprises a ball.

Claim 9 has been amended as follows:

9. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the [number of] at least one holder element [elements (8)] comprises three holder elements and [complementary] the at least one opening [openings] in the wall [(3)] of the cavity comprises three openings [(4) is more than one, preferably three,] spaced from each other by an angular distance.

Claim 10 has been amended as follows:

10. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the biasing means [the power unit (10)] comprises a mechanical spring, a section of its length being fitted in a cavity established within the pusher [(9)].

Claim 11 has been amended as follows:

11. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim 1 [characterized in that] wherein the cavity [(4)] is cylindrical and the pusher [(9)] comprises a cylindrical piston element.

Claim 12 has been amended as follows:

12. (Twice amended) A mechanism as set forth in claim [1] 3 [characterized in that] wherein none of its components need be removed from the mechanism to replace [for the process of replacing the rollers (7)] the roller and the bearing [(6)].